



Local Government for Langton Green, Speldhurst, Ashurst and Old Groombridge

**Minutes of a Highways Committee Meeting held in the Council Office, Langton Green Recreation Ground on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February 2020 at 7.30pm**

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**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Cllrs Pate (Chairman), Ellery, Scarborough (7.39pm), Barrington-Johnson, Milner (both ex-officio), Mr Norton and Mrs Horne (7.45pm)

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** There was one member of the public present.

**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Mr C May – Clerk

1. **To enquire if anyone present intends to film, photograph and/or record the meeting:** No-one present intended to film, photograph or record the meeting.
2. **To receive and approve apologies and reasons for absence:** Cllrs Mrs Woodliffe and Turner (both prior engagement)
3. **Disclosure of Interests:** There were none
4. **Declarations of Lobbying:** There were none
5. **Minutes: RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Highways Committee meeting dated **25<sup>th</sup> November 2019** be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman. The action points were reviewed, and it was agreed that action numbers 1/19, 2/19, 4/19, 6/19, 7/19, 8/19, 9/19 and 12/19 could be archived. 11/19, 13/19, 14/19 and 15/19 should remain but be shaded as complete.
6. **Public Open Session:** Mr Roser attended the meeting on behalf of residents from Hazelbank. He had previously emailed concerns regarding exiting Gypps Cross Lane into Farnham Lane because of increased parking around the exit and this had been circulated to Councillors. Cllr Pate said that the issue had been discussed at the meeting with KCC Schemes team the previous week and there had been no obvious solution suggested, except for the residents to write in to the Director of Highways who would ensure that the issue is directed to the correct unit. It was agreed that this would be kept as an agenda item.
7. **Matters Arising and Correspondence:** None that are not on the agenda
8. **Terms of Reference (TOR):** The TOR were reviewed, and it was **RESOLVED** to recommend no change to Full Council.

**9. Review of Highways Committee's Budget:** There was no change to the financial position.

**10. To review the action points:** see 5

**11. Monitoring of recent accidents in the Parish:** The Clerk reported no accidents had been reported by members of the public this year. A new PCSO was now responsible for the area and he would be introduced when full details were known.

**12. To report on the meeting held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2020 with the KCC Highways Schemes**

**Team:** The meeting was organised so that the KCC Highways Schemes Planning and Delivery Team could re-evaluate the issues highlighted in the HIP, which had been updated prior to the meeting. Attending on behalf of KCC was Nikola Floodgate (Manager for Kent) and Chris Koningen (Project Manager). The meeting was very positive and following issues were discussed:

- i. Advisory lights outside LGPS have not worked properly since installation in November 2018. They explained issues with Simmons Signs (their contractor) and agreed that the matter was unsatisfactory. They are looking to have them working mid-February. To compensate SPC for the delay the cost of some of the schemes will not be chargeable.
- ii. Groombridge Hill and Bird in Hand Street. The issues were explained, and Chris K will prepare a draft design for some traffic calming and speed reduction features on both roads. Designs could include virtual designs, 3-2-1 markers and speed reduction on the hill.
- iii. KCC Highways will also make initial investigations to reduce the speed on the A264 towards Ashurst and will install an ATC (automatic traffic count) to collect data.
- iv. They have referred data capture in SIDs and if they work in a 20mph area to the appropriate team
- v. Crossing Speldhurst Road at Lampington Row and to and from the twitten: They have referred the flooding to the drains team and for the standing water to be investigated (as per the photos attached). There was no reassurance that a proper crossing could be installed there, and they suggested that the school contact KCC (name supplied) to develop a travel plan. There was also no advice regarding inconsiderate parking.  
**Action:** Clerk to contact Headmaster regarding flooding and travel plan issues
- vi. Another ATC will be installed in Barden Road (suggested between Northfields and Furzeffield Avenue) and data will be analysed.

**Action:** Clerk to update committee once report has been received

**Action:** Clerk to remind Chris K that Groombridge is in a conservation area

**Action:** Clerk to contact Chris K regarding location of ATC on Barden road

It was agreed, in light of the positive approach from the KCC Schemes Team to defer using a Consultant and to review progress at a future time.

**13. Highways Improvement Plan (HIP):** It was agreed that this will stay on the agenda and be updated

**Action:** Clerk to report condition of Broom Lane

**14. Langton Green Primary School:** refer to 12v.

**15. To consider issues by Village:**

- **Groombridge**  
Groombridge Hill: refer 12ii  
Bird in Hand Street: refer 12ii
- **Ashurst**  
A264 speed reduction: refer 12iii. The Clerk was to ask Cllr Mrs Soyke about the flooding on the A264
- **Speldhurst**

20 mph speed limit: Speedwatch figures confirmed what was being reported that traffic was ignoring the speed limit and travelling up to twice the limit. It was agreed that the 20mph zone should be nearer the school, however it was agreed to see what happens if site 231 is developed in the Local Plan. Other suggested methods of slowing traffic down require street lighting but it was agreed to ask the school to design signs.

Bullingstone Lane: A letter had been received from residents regarding the state of the Lane after the water works last 6 months. Their request was directed to the Director of KCC Highways to ensure inspection and possible further works.

Barden Road: Further measures on this road will be considered at future meetings.

- **Langton Green**

Farnham Lane: see 6

Monteith Close: The Clerk will direct correspondence to KCC

## 16. Speed Cameras and Speed Watch

- Update on progress on Speed Watch: Speedwatch was now active in Langton Green and Speldhurst. Reports have been sent to CSW and the Clerk has requested suggestions for new sites.
- SID rotation: to be discussed at future meetings.

## 17. Items for information

Action Number	Action	Owner	Date created	Status
3/19	Contact LGPS regarding operating hours of advisory signs	Clerk	10/6	Met headmaster 18/6. Times agreed. KCC advised September Clerk to contact KCC to check if changed and both sets of lights working
5/19	to contact KCC for instructions on how download data and costs for a new SID.	Clerk	10/6	KCC contacted at seminar. They are to revert with info.
10/19	To contact KCC regarding new operating times for 20 mph advisory signs and confirm both working	Clerk	24/9	Discussed at meeting 3/2/20
11/19	to consider Ashurst and the A264 stretch from Langton Green to the Sussex border when discussing the outcomes of any findings by highways consultants working on the Groombridge section should SPC proceed.	Cllr Pate	24/9	Included in HIP

13/19	Follow up on flooding on A264 towards Ashurst	Clerk	25/11	KCC have been advised. To be followed up
14/19	To ask why restrictions are still in place at Speldhurst junction	Clerk	25/11	Works completed
15/19	To ask Headmaster about a crossing person	Clerk	25/11	Discussed at Full Council with Headmaster
16/19	Bus shelter costs for installation and insurance liability	Clerk	25/11	
1/20	To contact Headmaster and identify co-ordinator for Travel Plan. To discuss flooding	Clerk/Chairman	10/2/20	
2/20	To update Committee when report from Chris K is received	Clerk	10/2	
3/20	To contact Chris K regarding Groombridge in a conservation area	Clerk	10/2	
4/20	To contact Chris K regarding exact location of ATC on Barden Road	Clerk	10/2	Done 12/2

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.14pm

Chairman